



Tour de France 2020: Provence to Paris Bike Tour

12 days | 14 days with Paris extension

There's seeing French wine country and the Champs Élysées on two feet and then there's experiencing those iconic locales on two wheels. You'll get VIP access to watch the Tour de France and an insider look at the EF professional cycling team on this exclusive tour. Bike along routes handpicked by the team members (making pit stops to sip Burgundy wine and enjoy a picnic lunch, of course). Then, brush up on your French and shout "Allez!" from the sidelines as you cheer on riders competing in the world's most famous bicycle race.



Your tour package includes

- 10 nights in handpicked hotels
- 10 breakfasts
- 1 lunch
- 4 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 wine tasting
- Guided sightseeing tours
- 4 guided bike rides
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

Included highlights

- Exclusive EF bike team meet and greet
- Lake Annecy cruise
- Bastille Day fireworks over Lake Annecy
- Tour de France Alpine stage viewing
- La Voie des Vignes bike route
- Burgundy region wine tasting
- Champs Élysées bike ride
- VIP Tour de France finale viewing

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2 hours daily across flat terrain. You'll also bike between 20–60 miles every other day across variable terrain on mostly paved roads.

Group size

15–21

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Overnight flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Marseilles today.

Provence → 3 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Marseilles & transfer to Provence

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to France! Transfer to your hotel in Provence. Then, meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner this evening.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Aix-en-Provence

Included meals: breakfast

Set off on a walking tour of Aix-en-Provence, a Roman-influenced city and hometown of Post-Impressionist painter Paul Cézanne.

- Visit Aix Cathedral, built on the site of a 1st-century Roman forum
- Stop at Cézanne's birthplace, the school he attended, and the studio where many of his famous paintings came to light

Spend a free afternoon in Provence or add an excursion.

+ Gordes & Sénanque Abbey

Day 4: Provence bike ride

Included meals: breakfast

Discover the historic villages and scenery throughout Provence during this morning's bike ride. Choose between two different bike routes based on your desired activity level.

- Start the bike ride in the hilltop town of Oppède-le-Vieux
- Pedal through the Luberon region and soak in views of the mountain range that runs throughout the area
- Choose to extend your ride and pass vineyards and lavender fields in Luberon Regional Nature Park, a UNESCO-listed Biosphere Reserve

Please note: Travelers should reference the "Bike rides on this tour" section in the FAQ or on the pre-departure sheet for additional information

regarding the routes, activity level, and terrain on the included bike rides. Depending on local weather conditions and road closures, the activities and sequence of your included bike ride may change.

Enjoy a free evening in Provence or add an excursion.

+ Provençal Dinner & Wine Tasting

French Alps → 3 nights

Day 5: Transfer to the French Alps & EF bike team meet & greet

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Travel to the French Alps and meet members of the EF bike team.

- Take part in a question and answer session with the riders
- Learn about the inner workings of being part of a professional cycling team
- Hear about their experience competing in cycling races across the globe

Then, sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Day 6: French Alps bike ride & sightseeing tour of Annecy

Included meals: breakfast

Discover the beauty of the French Alps during this morning's bike ride. Choose between two different bike routes based on your desired activity level.

- Pick to bike the easy, leisurely loop around picturesque Lake Annecy where you'll pedal along a bike path and admire the reflection of the lake's azure water
- Opt to bike the hard route and pedal over Glières Plateau and admire the mountainous scenery as you bike up the final climb in stage 18 of the 2020 Tour de France

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This afternoon, get to know Annecy with your Tour Director.

- Walk through Annecy's Old Town and take in sweeping views of the Alps
 - Board a boat and cruise around Lake Annecy
- Keep your eyes peeled for fireworks this evening as locals celebrate Bastille Day, France's independence day.

Day 7: Tour de France viewing

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Watch the Alpine stage of the Tour de France today.

- Gather along the course to watch riders race from Grenoble to Méribel Col de la Loze
- Cheer on the cyclists as they tackle the mountainous terrain of the 17th stage of the race
- Sit down for a catered picnic lunch along the course
- Enter the VIP section of the finish line to watch the end of the race stage
- Enjoy Champagne, an open-bar, and snacks

Burgundy Region → 2 nights

Day 8: Transfer to Burgundy Region & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Travel to the Burgundy region, where you'll tour the Hospices de Beaune.

- Learn about Nicolas Rolin, the Duke of Burgundy's chancellor, who built the Hospices in the hope that his good works would earn him a place in heaven
- Discover how Rolin and his wife Guigone de Salins devoted their fortune to caring for the thousands who were left poor and starving after the Hundred Years' War

Sit down for an included dinner at a local restaurant in Beaune this evening.

Day 9: Burgundy bike ride

Included meals: breakfast, wine tasting

Explore the scenery of the Burgundy region on this morning's bike ride. Choose between two different bike routes based on your desired activity level.

- Travel from Santenay to Beaune on La Voie des Vignes bike route

- Pass through the wine-producing villages of Chassagne-Montrachet, Meursault, Volnay, and Pommard
- Opt to continue your ride to bike through the Vallée de l'Ouche, which follows the river of the same name, and passes through the picturesque village of Châteauneuf-en-Auxois

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Then, enjoy a wine tasting in Beaune’s Patriarche cellars as you hear how income from the town’s vineyards and profits from annual wine auctions fund the organization.

Paris → 2 nights

Day 10: Transfer to Paris & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast

Travel to Paris, where a guided tour introduces you to the architecture, scenery and history of the City of Light’s many neighborhoods, called *arrondissements*.

- Drive down the sycamore-lined Champs-Élysées in view of the Arc de Triomphe
- Pass Pont Neuf and Notre-Dame Cathedral, located on an island in the Seine River
- See the Eiffel Tower, the Palais Garnier opera house, and Place de la Concorde, the city’s grandest square
- Marvel at the iconic architecture of the Louvre and Hôtel des Invalides

Day 11: Paris bike ride & Tour de France finale viewing

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Head out on an early morning bike ride through Paris. Choose between two different bike routes based on your desired activity level.

- Opt for the easy route and ride along the Champs-Élysées, the finish line of the Tour de France since 1975
- Traverse the medium route to bike past historic Versailles Palace, before returning to Paris to pedal down the Champs-Élysées

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regarding the routes, activity level, and terrain on the included bike rides. Depending on local weather conditions and road closures, the activities and sequence of your included bike ride may change.

This afternoon, enjoy exclusive access to watch the final stage of the Tour de France. Then, celebrate your trip with Champagne and a farewell dinner this evening.

Flight home

Day 12: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport to board your flight home or extend your stay in Paris.

+ Paris extension

Paris is always a good idea, so extend your trip to keep exploring. Take a couple of days to museum-hop, stroll along the boulevards, brush up on your français, and let your expert Tour Director point you toward the crème de la crème.

Paris → 2 nights

Day 12: Free day in Paris

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Paris or add excursions.

+ Versailles Palace & Gardens

+ Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

Day 13: Free day in Paris

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a free day in Paris or add an excursion.

+ Eiffel Tower Lunch

Flight home

Day 14: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport to board your flight home.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: goaheadtours.ca/TDF | 1-800-754-5066

Day 3: Gordes & Sénanque Abbey

\$125CAD/\$135CAD* (6 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Admire stunning landscapes as you transfer through the Luberon Regional Nature Park on your way to the hilltop village of Gordes. You'll have free time to eat lunch and shop in Gordes, known as one of most beautiful villages in France. Then, stop to enter the 12th-century Sénanque Abbey with a local guide. Learn how the monks cultivate the lavender that grows around the abbey, before stopping to sample some regional olive oil as you travel back to Provence.

Day 4: Provençal Dinner & Wine Tasting

\$185CAD/\$195CAD* (6 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Travel to a rustic Provençal village outside of Aix-en-Provence. Start your evening with a tasting of red, white, and rosé wines at a vineyard and learn how each one is produced. Then, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant featuring the traditional herb-accented Provençal dishes, which the region is known for.

Enjoy a meal at one of the world's most famous landmarks. Head to restaurant 58 Tour Eiffel, located about 180 feet above the ground on the first floor of the Eiffel Tower. Peer down through the transparent glass floor, see an immersive show about the iconic monument, and visit its historic spiral staircase. Then, sit down to savor a three-course meal with drinks while taking in panoramic views of the city. Please note: This excursion does not include access to the top of the Eiffel Tower—those tickets must be purchased separately. You may purchase tickets online at www.toureiffel.paris/en/preparing-your-visit/opening-times.html. We recommend booking them 30 days in advance, and making your reservation for between 9am and 11am. If you do book tickets to the top floor, please keep in mind that we can only guarantee this excursion will run if the minimum number of travelers sign up. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

Extension excursion options

Day 12: Versailles Palace & Gardens

\$199CAD (5 hours, departure time varies)

The reign of Louis XIV, known as the “Sun King,” set new standards for decadence among the crowned heads of Europe. It took 50 years and 35,000 workers to turn Versailles, once a small hunting lodge, into the most magnificent château in all of France and the envy of royalty worldwide. On this excursion, you'll see the palace in all its glory as you tour the State Apartments and the glittering Hall of Mirrors. Then, stroll through the lavish gardens to admire their fine statuary, splendid fountains, and colorful flowerbeds. Please note: Versailles Palace is closed on Mondays. The optional excursion may be moved to a different day on tour to accommodate schedules. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 45 days prior to departure.

Day 12: Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

\$175CAD/\$185CAD* (5 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Take in the nighttime allure of the City of Light on a special evening excursion. The event begins with dinner at a local restaurant. After you dine, board a boat cruise along the Seine. As you coast along the river and under Paris' bridges, you'll behold the illuminated monuments of the city glittering alongside the riverbanks. Please note: The dress code may vary depending on the restaurant for your dinner. Your Tour Director will advise you on what to wear, but shorts and sneakers are likely to be considered inappropriate attire.

Day 13: Eiffel Tower Lunch

\$170CAD (3 hours, departs in the afternoon, lunch included)

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.ca/terms